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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,563	03/12/2004	Kiyoharu Hasebe	074913.0117	6510
24735	7590	06/30/2004	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS LLP C/O INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT THE WARNER, SUITE 1300 1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2400			TA, THO DAC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Office Action Summary</p>	Application No. <u>10/798,563</u>		Applicant(s) HASEBE, KIYOHARU	
	Examiner Tho D. Ta		Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 10 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/12/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 recites the limitation "the connecting piece" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5, 10, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen (6,174,208).

In regard to claim 1, Chen discloses a connector comprising a housing H and a contact T held in the housing H, wherein the housing H has a displaceable housing lance 60, the contact T including: a contacting portion 20 to be contacted with a connection object TT; a wall portion surrounding the contacting portion 20; and a locking portion 13 connected to the wall portion and adapted to be engaged with the housing lance 60, the wall portion having first and second side walls faced to each other

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with a space left therebetween, the locking portion 13 extending from the first wide wall towards the second side wall and having an extending end (distal end of 13), the second side wall having a locking/holding portion (the corner of top wall and the second sidewall where the distal end of 13 engages, see fig. 6) holding the extending end.

In regard to claim 2, Chen discloses that the housing H has a contact receiving portion, the contact T being inserted into the contact receiving portion in an inserting direction, the housing lance 60 locking the contact T in a removing direction reverse to the inserting direction.

In regard to claim 3, Chen discloses that the wall portion further has a bottom wall extending between the first and the second side walls, the contacting portion 20 having a contacting piece located between the first and the second side walls, the contacting piece and the bottom wall being faced to each other with a space left therefrom to receive the connection object TT (see fig. 1).

In regard to claim 4, Chen discloses that the contact T has an auxiliary piece 15 located between the first and the second side walls and faced to the bottom wall with a space left therefrom, the contacting piece of 20 having a free end located between the auxiliary piece 15 and the bottom wall (see fig. 1).

In regard to claim 5, Chen discloses that the wall portion has a top wall extending between the first and the second side walls and faced to the bottom wall with a space left therefrom, the contacting piece of 20 and the auxiliary piece 15 being provided on the top wall.

In regard to claim 10, Chen discloses that the housing lance 60 has elasticity so as to be engaged with and disengaged from the locking portion 13.

In regard to claim 11, Chen discloses that the contact T is connected to a cable W and has: a coupling portion to be coupled with the connection object T; a cable holding portion 12 holding the cable W; a press-fit portion 12 press-fitted to a core wire of the cable W; and a connecting portion 10 connecting the press-fit portion 12 and the coupling portion 11 to each other; the contacting portion 20, the wall portion, and the locking portion 13 being provided in the coupling portion 11.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 6-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In regard to claim 6, the combination of claims 1-4 with claim 6 would render the claims unobvious over the prior art. In regard to claim 7, the prior art fails to

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provide, teach or suggest the locking/holding portion is a cut-out portion formed in the second side wall, the extending end being inserted into the cut-out portion. In regard to claim 8, the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest the contact has an auxiliary locking portion extending from the second side wall to be engaged with the locking portion in the removing direction. In regard to claim 9, the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest the wall portion having a top wall extending between the first and the second side walls, the contact having an auxiliary locking portion extending from the top wall to be engaged with the locking portion in the removing direction.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho D. Ta whose telephone number is (571) 272-2014. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER